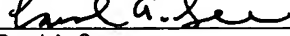


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, Express Mail Label No. EL 967262921 US, and addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Date: February 5, 2004

By: 
Carol A. See

PATENT
Docket No. GC381-D2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	
David A. Estell)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Serial No.: Unassigned)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: Filed Herewith)	
)	
For: Proteases From Gram-Positive Organisms))	

Information Disclosure Statement

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information (listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and attached thereto) of which they are aware, that they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

This Information Disclosure Statement:

- (a) ☒ accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith. 37 CFR §1.97(a).
- (b) ☐ is filed within three months after the filing date of the application or within three months after the date of entry into the national stage of a PCT application as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491.
- (c) ☐ as far as is known to the undersigned, is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- (d) ☐ is filed after the first Office Action and more than three months after the

application filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned, prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either the fee (\$180.00) set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) or a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e), as checked below. Authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 07-1048 in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the cost of this Information Disclosure Statement is provided in the Transmittal Letter submitted herewith in duplicate.

(e) ☐ is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurred first, and is accompanied by authorization (in the Transmittal Letter submitted herewith in duplicate) to charge Deposit Account No. 07-1048 the fee (\$180.00) set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(l)(1) **and** a certification as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e), as checked below. **This document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.**

[If either of boxes (d) or (e) is checked above, the following "certification" under 37 CFR §1.97(e) may need to be completed.] The undersigned certifies that:

☐ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of the items on Form PTO-1449 is supplied: PCT International Search Report for PCT/_____, filed _____ with attached patents and publications.

☐ each ☒ none ☐ only those listed below:

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, Serial No. 09/462,846 filed January 13, 2000.

Also, those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (**) on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Books not sent**) are not supplied. Complete bibliographic information is unknown or unavailable. The cited publications are books or reference manuals and are

commonly available. Reproduction of such publications would result in a voluminous submission.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on PTO-1449 is:

- ☒ not given
- ☐ given for each listed item
- ☐ given for only non-English language listed item(s)
- ☐ in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

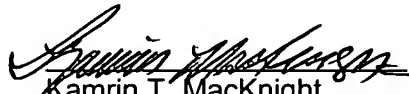
The Examiner is reminded that a "concise explanation of the relevance" of the submitted prior art "may be nothing more than identification of the particular figure or paragraph of the patent or publication which has some relation to the claimed invention." MPEP §609.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/5/04


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Attorney Docket No.: GC381-US-D2	Serial No.: Unassigned
Applicant: David A. Estell	
Filing Date: Filed Herewith	Group: Unassigned
Page <u>1</u> of <u>3</u>	Date of this Submission: February 5, 2004

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Initials	Number	Date	Country	Class	Class	Yes/No
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	** Ausubel et al., Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. , Vol. 1, Ch. 2 and 9, 1987.
	*Bakhiet et al., "Studies on Transfection and Transformation of Protoplasts of <i>Bacillus larvae</i> , <i>Bacillus subtilis</i> , and <i>Bacillus popilliae</i> ," Applied and Environmental Microbiology, vol. 49, no. 3, pp. 577-581, March, 1985.
Examiner	Date Considered
<p>Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p> <p align="right">PTO-1449</p>	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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Page <u>2</u> of <u>3</u>	Date of this Submission: February 5, 2004

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Examiner	Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

PTO-1449

Attorney Docket No.: GC381-US-D2	Serial No.: Unassigned
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Page <u>3</u> of <u>3</u>	Date of this Submission: February 5, 2004

[illegible]**Date Considered**

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